

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) An outboard motor position responsive system for an outboard motor comprising:

an ignition system;

an outboard motor position sensor in communication with the ignition system;

a microprocessor; and

a means for warning the operator that the outboard motor is tilted up beyond a maximum safe tilt position prior to ignition of the outboard motor, an alarm in communication with the microprocessor, wherein the means being in communications with the microprocessor ~~[[are]]~~ via radio frequency signals;

~~wherein when an operator attempts to start the ignition system when the outboard motor is tilted up beyond a maximum safe tilt position, the alarm is activated by the microprocessor to warn the operator.~~

2. (Currently Amended) An outboard motor position responsive system for an outboard motor comprising:

an ignition system;

an outboard motor position sensor in communication with the ignition system;

a microprocessor in communication with the outboard motor position sensor and the ignition system; and

a means for warning the operator that the outboard motor is tilted beyond a maximum safe tilt position prior to ignition of the outboard motor, an alarm in communication with the microprocessor, wherein the means being in communications ~~[[are]]~~ with the microprocessor and the communications are superimposed over existing wiring of a power boat,

wherein when an operator attempts to start the ignition system when the outboard motor is tilted up beyond a maximum safe tilt position, the alarm is activated by the microprocessor to warn the operator.

3. (Currently Amended) An outboard motor position responsive system for an outboard motor comprising:

an ignition system;

an outboard motor position sensor in communication with the ignition system;

a microprocessor in communication with the outboard motor position sensor; and

a means for disabling an ignition system of the outboard motor to prevent an operator from starting the outboard motor when the outboard motor is tilted up beyond a maximum safe tilt position, an ignition disabling switch the means being in communication with the microprocessor, wherein the communications are via radio frequency signals

~~wherein when an operator attempts to start the ignition system when the outboard motor is tilted up beyond a maximum safe tilt position, the ignition disabling switch is activated by the microprocessor to prevent the operator from starting the ignition system.~~

4. (Currently Amended) An outboard motor position responsive system for an outboard motor comprising:

an ignition system;

an outboard motor position sensor in communication with the ignition system;

a microprocessor in communication with the outboard motor position sensor and the ignition system; and

a means for disabling an ignition system of the outboard motor to prevent an operator from starting the outboard motor when the outboard motor is tilted up beyond a maximum safe tilt position, an ignition disabling switch the means being in communication with the microprocessor, wherein the communications are superimposed over existing wiring of a power boat;

~~wherein when an operator attempts to start the ignition system when the outboard motor is tilted up beyond a maximum safe tilt position, the ignition disabling switch is activated by the microprocessor to prevent the operator from starting the ignition system.~~

5. (Currently Amended) An outboard motor position responsive system for an outboard motor comprising:

an ignition system;

an outboard motor position sensor in communication with the ignition system;

a microprocessor in communication with the outboard motor position sensor; and

a means for automatically lowering the outboard motor prior to ignition of the outboard motor when the outboard motor is tilted up beyond a maximum safe tilt position, ~~a tilt circuit in communication with the microprocessor, wherein the means being in communications with the microprocessor~~ [[are]] via radio frequency signals;

~~wherein when an operator attempts to start the ignition system when the outboard motor is tilted up beyond a maximum safe tilt position, the tilt circuit is activated by the microprocessor to automatically lower the outboard motor.~~

6. (Currently Amended) An outboard motor position responsive system for an outboard motor comprising:

an ignition system;

an outboard motor position sensor in communication with the ignition system;

a microprocessor in communication with the outboard motor position sensor and the ignition system; and

a means for automatically lowering the outboard motor prior to ignition of the outboard motor when the outboard motor is tilted up beyond a maximum safe tilt position, ~~a tilt circuit in communication with the microprocessor, wherein the means being in communications with the microprocessor and [[are]] the communications being superimposed over existing wiring of a powerboat and through the microprocessor;~~

~~wherein when an operator attempts to start the ignition system when the outboard motor is tilted up beyond a maximum safe tilt position, the tilt circuit is activated by the microprocessor to automatically lower the outboard motor.~~

7. (Currently Amended) An outboard motor position responsive system for an outboard motor comprising:

an ignition system;

an outboard motor position sensor in communication with the ignition system;

a microprocessor; and

a means for warning the operator that the outboard motor is tilted up beyond a maximum safe tilt position prior to ignition of the outboard motor, ~~an alarm in communication with the outboard motor position sensor, wherein the means being in communications with the microprocessor [[are]] via infrared signals and through the microprocessor,~~

~~wherein when an operator attempts to start the ignition system when the outboard motor is tilted up beyond a maximum safe tilt position, the alarm is activated by the outboard motor position sensor to warn the operator.~~

8. (Currently Amended) An outboard motor position responsive system for an outboard motor comprising:

an ignition system;

an outboard motor position sensor in communication with the ignition system;

a microprocessor; and

a means for disabling an ignition system of the outboard motor to prevent an operator from starting the outboard motor when the outboard motor is tilted up beyond a maximum safe tilt position, an ignition disabling switch the means being in communication with the outboard motor position sensor, wherein the communications are via infrared signals and through the microprocessor;

~~wherein when an operator attempts to start the ignition system when the outboard motor is tilted up beyond a maximum safe tilt position, the ignition disabling switch is activated by the outboard motor position sensor to prevent the operator from starting the ignition system.~~

9. (Currently Amended) An outboard motor position responsive system for an outboard motor comprising:

an ignition system;

an outboard motor position sensor in communication with the ignition system;

a microprocessor; and

a means for automatically lowering the outboard motor prior to ignition of the outboard motor when the outboard motor is tilted up beyond a maximum safe tilt position, ~~a tilt circuit in communication with the outboard motor position sensor, wherein the means being in communications with the microprocessor~~ [[are]] via infrared signals and through the microprocessor,

~~wherein when an operator attempts to start the ignition system when the outboard motor is tilted up beyond a maximum safe tilt position, the tilt circuit is activated by the outboard motor position sensor to automatically lower the outboard motor.~~